

# THE PRINTERS SHOPPER, LLC

Providing Supplies and Equipment to Printers Since 1970



## HAZMAT SPILL KITS • CHEAP INSURANCE AGAINST LOSS OF PRODUCTION TIME!

The general tendency is to only be concerned with a spill if it is a “hazardous material” (hazmat). After all, if it isn’t hazardous, then there is nothing to worry about. In reality, hazardous can have a wide interpretation in its meaning. A spill of liquid soap may not be “hazardous” in the definitions of flammable, corrosive, explosive or any of the other common workplace hazards, but it certainly presents a slip and fall hazard. Any workplace spill can cause slips and falls, exposure to chemicals, potential environmental release, and loss in production time. Regardless of the nature of the spill, it should be reported to a supervisor immediately for evaluation.

### What to Do in Case of a Spill

**BEFORE** a spill occurs, be certain all personnel have their pre-assigned task in case of a spill, regardless of size. Make sure your spill kit is properly stocked, and all personnel know its location.

If a spill should occur, first identify the spilled product. If you are NOT familiar with the product and its chemical properties, extinguish all sources of ignition, vacate the area, and contact proper authorities.

- 1. Risk Assessment** – Evaluate the type of material spilled and identify the source. Refer to Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS), if available, for instructions.
- 2. Protective Clothing** – Wear the appropriate protective gear for the situation. If the source or the material are not identifiable assume the worst. For large spills regardless of their nature, always contact the authorities in your community.
- 3. Containment** – Contain the liquid and seal drains to prevent the spill from entering the sewer system or ground water.
- 4. Stop the Source** – Close valves, rotate punctured drums and plug leaks where possible and safe to do so.
- 5. Clean Up** – Use inert sorbents provided in kit to absorb spilled liquids. Place contaminated sorbents in disposal bag provided. Label disposal bag with provided label. Refer to MSDS for information.
- 6. Contact Authorities** – Report the spill to the proper authorities in your community. Be sure to fill out all necessary reports in accordance with local, state and federal laws.
- 7. Disposal of Used Material** – Absorbent materials take on the characteristics of whatever they absorb. Be sure to dispose of used absorbents and spilled liquids in accordance with all local, state and federal laws. This should only be done by a licensed Hazardous Waste Hauler.
- 8. Decontaminate** – Clean all tools and reusable materials properly before reuse. Don’t forget to clean the floor in the spill area.
- 9. Restock Materials** – Immediately replace all absorbent materials and safety equipment used or depleted in any clean up operation. Call The Printers Shopper with your Kit Order# or your old invoice number for help; **800-341-6650**.
- 10. Review Contingency Plans and Procedures!** – Evaluate personnel response. Were all actions handled efficiently? Are there any areas needing improvement?

**PLEASE NOTE: A Sorbent Center or Spill Kit is a stop-gap measure for minor spill clean-up. If a serious spill occurs, contact local authorities for direction and assistance. REMEMBER – an empty Spill Kit does not do anyone any good! Replenish all materials used to contain a spill immediately. Due to the various toxic and hazardous fluids that could be involved The Printers Shopper does not recommend disposal procedures.**

 Toll-Free: **800-341-6650**  FAX: **425-828-6384**

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